



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

June 15, 2005

News Release

TWO ILLEGAL ALIENS FOUND CARRYING WEAPONS ARRESTED IN ICE LED MULTI-AGENCY EFFORT

WINSTON-SALEM, NC—Two illegal aliens found carrying .380 and .22-caliber pistols were among 10 illegal aliens arrested here yesterday by special agents of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and police officers of several local law enforcement agencies.

Jose Maria Torres-Manzanares, 34 and Ricardo Navarro-Albanza, 30 will be prosecuted federally by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of North Carolina for possessing firearms in violation of 18 USC 922. Both are in U.S. Marshals custody awaiting the outcome of their criminal cases. They also face administrative immigration charges for being in the country illegally.

All of those arrested are citizens of Mexico and entered the country without inspection. The eight illegal aliens without criminal charges are detained at the Mecklenburg County Jail awaiting deportation proceedings.

"Law enforcement partnerships are what keep blatant criminals like Manzanares and Albanza off the streets," said Jeffrey Jordan, ICE assistant special agent-in-charge in North Carolina. "ICE will use its broad immigration authorities to ensure that these criminals experience the full weight of the law."

The Yadkinville NC Police Department, the Iredell County Sheriff's Office, the Yadkin County Sheriff's Office and the Statesville NC Police Department assisted in making these arrests.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.